



**NATIONAL
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KENTUCKY WEEKLY CROP & WEATHER REPORT



In Cooperation with:
Univ. of Ky - Agr'l Weather Center
U.S. Dept. of Commerce - NOAA
Kentucky Department of Agriculture
Cooperative Extension Service

LELAND E. BROWN, Director

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8-08

AGRICULTURAL NEWS: Above normal rainfall and below normal temperatures was the trend across the Commonwealth. Temperatures for the week averaged 58 degrees across the State which was 6 degrees below normal for the week. Total precipitation for the week was 1.36 inches statewide, which was 0.19 inches above normal. **Topsoil moisture** was rated as 2 percent short, 57 percent adequate, and 41 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was rated 3 percent short, 67 percent adequate, and 30 percent surplus. There were 2.3 days suitable for fieldwork. The primary farming activities for the week were setting tobacco, planting corn and soybeans.

TOBACCO: Tobacco setting was behind last year and the five-year average, slowed by damp field conditions. Ten percent of the burley tobacco plants have been set, compared with 32 percent last year and the five-year average of 21 percent. Nine percent of the dark tobacco has been set, behind last year's 28 percent and the five-year average of 18 percent. Farmers reported the tobacco crop condition as 6 percent poor, 34 percent fair, 46 percent good, and 14 percent excellent.

ROW CROPS: Corn producers have seeded 73 percent of their acres, compared to 95 percent last year, and 90 percent for the five-year average. Crop emergence was reported at 54 percent, below last year's 83 percent and the five-year average of 77 percent. The average emerged corn height was 4 inches, with the most advanced height at 7 inches. Corn condition was rated 1 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 56 percent good, and 16 percent excellent. As of Sunday, May 18, soybeans were 12 percent planted compared to 33 percent last year and 29 percent for the five-year average. Soybeans emerged was reported at 5 percent, behind last year's 7 percent and the five-year average of 8 percent.

SMALL GRAINS: The winter wheat crop condition was rated 1 percent very poor, 3 percent poor, 16 percent fair, 46 percent good, and 34 percent excellent. Some farmers continued to report some lodging in their wheat crop. The winter wheat harvest is expected to begin June 17, and barley on June 11.

OTHER CROPS AND PASTURE: As of Sunday, May 18, three percent of sorghum acres had been planted, behind last year's 29 percent, and the five-year average of 24 percent. The hay crop condition was rated at 3 percent very poor, 9 percent poor, 33 percent fair, 45 percent good, and 10 percent excellent. Pasture condition was rated 2 percent very poor, 8 percent poor, 36 percent fair, 43 percent good, and 11 percent excellent.

CROP PROGRESS for week ending 05/18/08

Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Percent				
Corn Planted	73	69	95	90
Corn Emerged	54	40	83	77
Soybeans Planted	12	9	33	29
Soybeans Emerged	5	NA	7	8
Sorghum Planted	3	2	29	24
Burley Tobacco Set	10	7	32	21
Dark Tobacco Set	9	6	28	18

SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 05/18/08

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent				
Topsoil	0	2	57	41
Subsoil	0	3	67	30

CROP CONDITIONS for week ending 05/18/08

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Ex
Percent					
Corn Emerged	1	4	23	56	16
Wheat	1	3	16	46	34
Pasture	2	8	36	43	11
Hay Crops	3	9	33	45	10
Tobacco Set	0	6	34	46	14

KENTUCKY WEATHER SUMMARY, MAY 12 - 18, 2008:

Above normal rainfall and below normal temperatures:

A moist weather system swept across the Bluegrass State during the middle of last week, providing the Commonwealth with above normal rainfall for the 2nd time in the past 5 weeks. A cooler air mass filtered into the region during the period and allowed for unseasonably cool overnight temperatures. With rainfall amounts continuing to moderate, field activities continued to progress normally. The latest Palmer Drought Index shows that West is in an **EXTREME MOIST SPELL**, Central is in a **VERY MOIST SPELL**, Bluegrass is in an **UNUSUAL MOIST SPELL**, and East is **NEAR NORMAL** hydrologic conditions.

Temperatures for the period averaged 58 degrees across the State which was 6 degrees below normal and 4 degrees less than the previous week. High temperatures averaged from 70 in the West to 67 in the East. Departure from normal high temperatures ranged from 10 degrees below normal in the West to 9 degrees below normal in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 52 degrees in the West to 50 degrees in the East. Departure from normal low temperature ranged from 5 degrees below normal in the West to 5 degrees below normal in the East.

Rainfall for the period totaled 1.36 inches statewide which was 0.19 inches above normal. Rainfall totals by climate division, West 1.20 inches, Central 1.45 inches, Bluegrass 1.25 inches and East 1.27 inches, which was 0.01, 0.17, 0.48 and 0.17 inches respectively above normal. By station, rainfall totals ranged from a low of 0.47 inches at Berea to a high of 2.38 inches at Covington.

Tom Priddy

KENTUCKY TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL

FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 18, 7:00 P.M.

Weather Station	Rainfall			Deviation From		Air Temperature				Growing Degree Days		
	Last Week	Since April 1	Last Four Wks	Norm Since Apr. 1	Norm Last 4 Wks	High	Low	Wkly. Avg.	Dev. From Norm	Last Week	Since Apr. 1	Dev. Since Apr. 1
	(Inches)					(Degrees Fahrenheit)						
Bardstown	1.18	10.99	4.82	+4.51	+0.93	75	44	60.0	-7	75	500	-70
Berea	0.47	8.44	3.37	+1.39	-0.84	75	44	61.4	-4	84	528	-60
Bowling Green	0.76	9.72	4.84	+2.53	+0.53	77	44	62.4	-4	90	540	-48
Bristol	0.60	3.97	2.30	-1.59	-1.06	73	39	58.1	-7	66	529	+7
Buckhorn Lake	0.97	6.26	3.31	+0.12	-0.33	74	44	59.0	-6	69	490	-32
Cape Girardeau	0.78	11.45	4.11	+4.01	-0.38	79	38	61.0	-8	83	461	-145
Campbellsville	0.91	9.30	4.10	+1.55	-0.49	74	43	59.5	-7	75	527	-61
Covington	2.38	7.54	5.14	+1.30	+1.40	76	46	58.6	-7	62	427	-65
Cumberland Gap	0.80	6.73	2.83	-0.14	-1.32	74	41	59.9	-6	76	500	-22
Dix Dam	0.70	7.68	4.08	+0.71	-0.08	73	44	59.9	-6	73	476	-94
Evansville	0.60	9.57	3.94	+2.79	-0.16	79	45	61.0	-8	80	461	-97
Glasgow	0.89	11.18	4.29	+3.69	-0.16	78	42	61.8	-5	91	586	+58
Grayson	1.11	9.40	5.69	+3.30	+2.01	74	42	58.4	-7	64	478	+4
Hardinsburg	1.31	11.44	5.45	+4.30	+1.19	76	44	60.4	-6	78	516	-72
Henderson	1.31	10.06	4.91	+3.16	+0.85	77	42	60.4	-8	78	476	-112
Huntington	1.32	8.10	5.34	+2.03	+1.67	74	41	58.4	-7	64	496	-26
Jackson	1.01	6.32	3.15	-0.38	-0.82	72	45	58.1	-7	63	516	-6
Lexington	1.13	10.04	4.45	+3.56	+0.56	74	45	58.9	-7	67	443	-49
London	0.98	6.77	3.35	+0.38	-0.43	74	42	59.0	-6	68	528	+6
Louisville	1.83	11.91	6.03	+5.00	+1.94	76	46	60.2	-6	74	508	-50
Mayfield	0.53	6.48	1.34	-1.48	-3.25	74	45	59.9	-9	74	487	-149
Nashville	1.06	10.86	4.19	+3.66	-0.10	77	45	62.1	-4	90	568	-68
Nolin Lake	1.00	11.76	4.59	+4.05	-0.10	76	44	61.4	-5	84	530	-40
Paducah	1.19	10.40	2.87	+2.52	-1.67	79	42	62.4	-6	92	517	-89
Princeton	1.19	11.62	5.69	+3.94	+1.21	78	41	61.9	-7	89	560	-58
Quicksand	0.71	6.00	2.84	-0.70	-1.13	74	45	58.9	-7	68	491	-31
Somerset	0.91	8.85	4.01	+1.56	-0.38	71	40	56.4	-9	59	485	-85
Spindletop	0.99	10.08	4.69	+3.60	+0.80	74	45	58.9	-7	67	446	-46
Williamstown	1.77	8.78	5.11	+2.07	+1.17	75	46	58.6	-7	64	426	-66

The above information is provided by Tom Priddy, Kentucky Extension Agricultural Meteorologist, University of Kentucky Agr'l Weather Center (859)257-3000 ext 245. E-mail: priddy@uky.edu Additional Ky weather data available on Internet at: <http://www.wagwx.ca.uky.edu/>